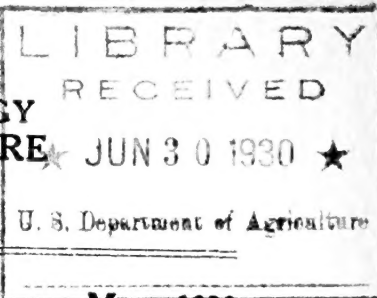


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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Number 193

TAXONOMY

Harold Morrison, in Charge

Frank Johnson, of New York City, spent May 16 consulting with Dr. William Schaus.

Dr. A. G. Böving, the Bureau's specialist on coleopterous larvae, recently received from J. C. M. Gardner, of the Forest Research Institute and College, Dehra Dun, India, a series of beetle larvae, including cotypes of species described by him in an extensive paper on the immature stages of Indian Coleoptera.

Marsten Bates, an entomologist with the United Fruit Company, and located at Tela, Honduras, spent most of a week in the taxonomic unit in the latter part of May. He was particularly interested in obtaining determinations of Lepidoptera which he had collected in Guatemala and Honduras, especially determinations of some of the material which had been reared by him.

Dr. J. M. Aldrich, of the Museum staff, has gone to the western United States for two months and will spend some time there collecting Diptera in high altitudes.

It may be of interest to readers of the Bureau's Monthly Letter to learn of the death, on May 17, of Dr. George Dimmock, Springfield, Mass. It will be remembered that several years ago Dr. Dimmock turned over his collections of insects to Dr. E. A. Chapin, of the taxonomic staff, who brought them to Washington and arranged for their addition to the collections of the National Museum.

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS

F. C. Bishopp, in Charge

Glenn O. Robertson has been appointed temporary field assistant, and entered upon his duties May 20, at the field laboratory at Coachella, Calif., where the work on eye gnats is being conducted.

On May 17 F. C. Bishopp visited Dr. Baer, of Johns Hopkins University, at Baltimore, Md., for consultation with regard to the use of blow-fly maggots in treatment of cases of osteomyelitis.

TRUCK-CROP INSECTS

J. E. Graf, in Charge

Leaving Washington May 8, W. H. White visited the lower section of South Carolina, to look over locations there suitable for the establishment of a field laboratory devoted to work on the sandy-land wireworm. He visited the field laboratory at Chadbourn, N. C., and conferred with W. A. Thomas and C. F. Stahl on the problems of the strawberry weevil and the root aphid. He also stopped at Charleston, S. C., to discuss with W. J. Reid, jr., the problem of the seed-corn maggot, and returned to Washington May 12.

M. C. Lane, Walla Walla, Wash., visited Bozeman, Mont., May 5, St. Paul, Minn., May 7 and 8, and Ames, Iowa, May 9 and 10, to confer with entomologists and others concerning certain phases of the work on wireworms.

C. F. Stahl, Chadbourn, N. C., visited Washington, D. C., May 12 to 16, to confer with Dr. P. W. Mason regarding aphid material which he has collected on strawberries during the past season, and returned to Chadbourn on May 17. On May 19 he visited Orlando, Fla., to confer with W. E. Stone in regard to the work at the field laboratory at Sanford, Fla., where Mr. Stahl will take up a new assignment on July 1.

N. F. Howard, Columbus, Ohio, visited Norfolk, Va., May 16 and 17, to discuss with L. W. Brannon the work in progress on the Mexican bean beetle, and stopped over at Washington en route.

W. A. Thomas, Chadbourn, N. C., visited Washington May 14, to make a survey of the strawberry plantings at Bell, Md., in company with G. M. Darrow, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. They went there to determine the varying susceptibility of the different varieties of strawberries to attack by insects. Mr. Thomas also made a survey for infestations by the strawberry weevil on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and in Delaware.

O. E. Gahm, Arlington, Va., and H. D. Young, of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, visited Barberton, Ohio, May 19 and 20, to conduct some experimental tests on fumigation in the mushroom plant of Yoder Brothers.

J. A. Hyslop, Washington, D. C., went to Biloxi, Miss., on May 20, where, with K. L. Cockerham, he inspected work on wireworms in progress at the field laboratory there. Mr. Hyslop reports injury from wireworms in the vicinity of Foley, Ala.

A. C. Morgan, in charge of the field laboratory at Clarksville, Tenn., visited Quincy, Fla., in the week of May 28, to confer with F. S. Chamberlin in regard to the season's work at the field laboratory there.

O. E. Gahm, Arlington, Va., left Washington May 31 for points in the West and on the Pacific Coast, to study the occurrence of mushroom pests in commercial mushroom houses.

Field assistants who have recently been appointed are W. C. Pierce, for service at Baton Rouge, La., E. B. Wiggins, at Estancia, N. M., L. L. Odom, at Bay St. Louis, Miss., A. L. Strand, at Walla Walla, Wash., and W. J. Gertsch, at Richfield, Utah.

BEE CULTURE

Jas. I. Hambleton, in Charge

J. E. Eckert, of the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Laramie, Wyo., has been granted leave of absence to attend the graduate school of Ohio State University during the coming fall term.

Dr. Tomi Yoneda, of the Department of Animal Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Tokyo, Japan, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory May 20 to consult with members of the staff on matters relative to the production, marketing, and grading of honey. According to Doctor Yoneda, an effort will be made in Japan to interest farmers in keeping colonies of bees.

Dr. L. R. Watson, of Alfred, N. Y., formerly connected with the Division of Bee Culture Investigations, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory in the latter part of May. Besides his investigations on the artificial insemination of queenbees and research on the composition of beeswax, Doctor Watson, with the assistance of Mrs. Watson, has developed a formula by which honey is utilized in the making of an unusually fine grade of assorted chocolate candy.

Dr. L. M. Bertholf has been appointed Field Assistant, to continue investigations at the Bee Culture Laboratory on the effect of various wave lengths of light upon the honeybee. At the termination of the temporary appointment Doctor Bertholf will go to Munich, Germany, to study with Prof. Karl von Frisch, of the University of Munich, on a National Research Council fellowship.

Dr. Neale F. Howard, of the Mexican Bean Beetle Laboratory, Columbus, Ohio, visited the Bee Culture Laboratory on May 13.

Dr. W. E. Dunham, of Ohio State University, has been given a temporary appointment to assist in experiments on the pollination of red clover, to be conducted this summer at Holgate, Ohio, by the Bee Culture Laboratory.

Harley W. Roath, L. E. McDonald, Russell Smith, and Wm. C. Northrup have been appointed Field Assistants to help with experiments underway at the Intermountain Bee Culture Field Laboratory, Laramie, Wyo.

Winfred L. Martin, Charles F. Moreland, and Harry H. Laidlaw, jr., have been appointed Field Assistants at the Southern States Bee Culture Field Laboratory, at Baton Rouge, La.

DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECTS

A. L. Quaintance, in Charge

G. F. Moznette, in charge of pecan-insect investigations, with headquarters at Albany, Ga., and T. L. Bissell, of the pecan-insect laboratory at Experiment, Ga., attended the twenty-fourth annual convention of the Georgia-Florida Pecan Growers Association, April 18 and 19. Mr. Moznette presented a paper entitled "Relative efficiency of lead arsenate and calcium arsenate in controlling the pecan leaf case-bearer," and Mr. Bissell gave one entitled "Some facts about the pecan weevil."

Contributions from the Japanese-Beetle Laboratory

On May 5 Dr. R. W. Glaser, of the Rockefeller Institute, Princeton, N. J., visited the Laboratory. He is much interested in the parasitic nematodes of Popillia japonia, and spent a large part of his time in field studies of larvae of this beetle in the Haddonfield district.

On May 29 C. O. Eddy, of Clemson College, S. C., visited the Laboratory, and examined its equipment with much interest.

FOREST INSECTS

F. C. Craighead, in Charge

Doctor Craighead spent May 14, 15, and 16 with Messrs. E. E. Carter, M. W. Thompson and A. L. Nelson, of the Forest Service, and L. G. Baumhofer, formerly with the Bureau of Entomology, on the Nebraska National Forest, in a field examination of the plantations at Halsey. The improved appearance of the yellow-pine trees resulting from the decrease in infestation of the tip moth brought about by the introduction of the parasite Campoplex was most gratifying. It is hoped that the parasite will bring about sufficient control to permit of the growth of this important species of yellow pine in the vicinity of Halsey. Plans for carrying out control work against infestation by the pitch moth in jack pine were considered and will probably be put into effect next fall.

Doctor Craighead spent May 27 at the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory, conferring with C. W. Collins on plans for the coming summer's program.

This division has recently, in cooperation with the Extension Service, prepared a film strip on the control of subterranean termites attacking the woodwork of buildings. We believe that this strip will prove very useful to State entomologists and other entomologists who are called upon to remedy conditions where termites have attacked buildings. The strip will be ready in the near future.

R. A. St. George spent the week of April 28 at Madison, Wis., attending the Forest-Service conference there, and took part in the proposed economic survey of forest resources. Doctors E. Bateman, Senior Chemist, and Caroline T. Rumbold, Assistant Pathologist, Forest Products Laboratory, were consulted regarding certain phases of the work in tree injections that is being conducted by the field laboratory at Asheville, N. C., with the object of finding a more economical method of control for trees attacked by bark beetles.

On May 31 R. A. St. George left Falls Church for Asheville, N. C., to assume charge of the work at the field laboratory there for the coming summer. He will be assisted by R. W. Caird, of the University of Chicago, who is making a physiological study of trees attacked by bark beetles, and Messrs. Pawek and Huckenpahler, from the University of Minnesota. On his way to Asheville he will stop at Richmond, Va., to examine a group of pine trees at Hopewell, Prince George Co., Va., on the holdings of the DuPont Rayon Company, which have been attacked by the southern pine beetle.

Contributions from the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory

On May 8 Prof. C. T. Brues and D. W. Farquhar, of Harvard University, accompanied by 20 students in zoology, visited the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory. Mr. Farquhar again visited the Laboratory on May 13, with 12 students in zoology from Radcliffe College.

Prof. J. A. Manter and Prof. R. M. DeCoursey, of the Connecticut Agricultural College, spent May 14 at the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory. They were accompanied by three students who are studying entomology at that college.

In May four students, H. A. Bess, of the University of Florida, G. G. Cannon, of the University of Kansas, and D. W. Farquhar and C. W. Lacaille, jr., of Harvard University, were given temporary appointments as field assistants at the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory.

C. F. W. Muesebeck, of the Gipsy-Moth Laboratory, conferred with H. B. Pierson, State Entomologist of Maine, at Augusta on May 20, regarding injury to spruce in Maine by a webworm, Epinotia nanana Tr. Mr. Muesebeck later visited some of the areas where the injury is most apparent, along the coast of that State.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECTS

W. H. Larrimer, in Charge

W. E. Haley, of the field laboratory at New Orleans, La., spent about three weeks in May visiting the sugar-cane sections of Florida, to investigate the situation as to the sugar-cane moth borer, and to make a special study of the parasites of this insect.

Dr. F. W. Poos spent May 23 and 24 at the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, discussing with Dr. D. M. DeLong certain taxonomic studies of the genus *Empoasca*.

C. M. Packard, in charge of the field laboratory at West Lafayette, Ind., was in the Washington office on May 23 and 24, in consultation with bureau officials regarding the problem of the Hessian fly.

COTTON INSECTS

B. R. Coad, in Charge

In May Mr. Coad visited the field laboratory at El Paso, Tex., for the study of the pink bollworm, the one at Tucson, Ariz., for investigating the thurberia weevil, and the one at Calexico, Calif., where investigations of the cotton leaf perforator are being conducted. He also inspected the activities of the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration in eradicating the pink bollworm in the Salt River Valley of Arizona. The various projects for the coming season were reviewed and future activities were outlined.

David Isler, who has been in charge of investigations on cultural control of the pink bollworm, has been transferred to Tallulah and placed in general charge of the mechanical investigations of the Division of Cotton Insects. This work is conducted in cooperation with the Division of Agricultural Engineering of the Bureau of Public Roads.

In May W. J. Moore and D. H. Ratcliff were appointed temporary field assistants.

On May 7 C. A. Bennett, Associate Mechanical Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, cooperating with the Delta Field Laboratory, Tallulah, visited Dallas, Tex., for tests upon an all-steel cotton drier, developed by one of the prominent manufacturers of cotton ginning machinery, under plans and specifications issued from this laboratory. On May 9 he visited Houston, Tex., where he had been invited to address the employees of the Anderson Clayton Company upon the subject of cotton drying. About 200 cotton experts and classifiers from various places in Texas were present at the lecture. On May 21 he visited Skene, Miss., at the request of R. M. Dakin, who had applied to the Department of Agriculture at Washington for assistance in the installation of an exceptionally large drier. Mr. Dakin has purchased two war-time driers of the Sargent type, each being at least 70 feet long by 7 feet wide. With these driers at his cotton gins, Mr. Dakin expects to harvest and gin his entire crop of several thousand bales by Thanksgiving.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

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- Andrews, E. A.
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BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

PROPOSALS FOR GASOLINE

All specifications hereafter used in soliciting proposals for gasoline should contain the following paragraph:

"IMPORTANT CONDITION

"A bidder required by law to pay a State tax on gasoline must not quote this tax as a part of the sale price, but must quote a net price and state affirmatively that tax is not included in the price quoted; otherwise, bid will not be considered." (P. S. & T., dated May 5, 1930).

TRAVELING EXPENSES, DIVISION OF--GASOLINE AND OIL

"An employee of the Government, while traveling in an automobile on official business, accompanied by other employees not in a duty status may be reimbursed only his pro rata share of the cost of gasoline and oil consumed." (Comp. Gen. Dec. A-30415, vol. 9, page 331.)

EXPRESS SHIPMENTS NOT MADE ON GOVERNMENT BILL OF LADING

Subsequent to the issuance of P. B. A. Circular No. 147, "Discontinuance of charge slips for express shipments," it became apparent that despite effort to universalize the Government bill-of-lading form for this class of transportation there would be an irreducible number of express consignments at Department expense forwarded to offices, agencies, or employees of the Department without the execution at origin of the bill of lading, Standard Form 1058. This situation was placed before the Comptroller General with request that he issue instructions in consequence.

His response, A-24222, of May 17, 1930, directs the following procedure:

Where it is impossible to secure the use of the standard forms of Government bill of lading by cooperators, collaborators, vendors or others supplying the Department with information, the papers evidencing the contract of shipment, such as the company's delivery record of Government shipment or a commercial bill of lading, should be attached to Standard Form No. 1058, original bill of lading, identifying them briefly with each other, and executing the "Consignee's Certificate of Delivery" printed on the face of such standard form. Where necessary the form of "Report of Loss, Damage or Shrinkage" printed on the reverse of the standard form should also be filled out and signed. A memorandum record of the transaction may be maintained by the use of Standard Form 1058a--Memorandum copy of bill of lading.

All employees of the Department should govern themselves by these instructions in the applicable cases. Attention is particularly invited to the fact that Standard Form No. 1060, "Temporary receipt," should not be used unless there is reasonable certainty that a bill of lading was executed by the consignor and has been either delayed in transmission or lost.

The availability of a procedure in the absence of the Government bill of lading should not be permitted to encourage neglect on the part of employees to use Form 1058 for express shipments chargeable to the Department and to provide as far as possible for such use by private or commercial consignors. The effort should be to maintain the instances of nonuse of the form at a strict minimum. (P. B. A. Circular No. 151.)

In order to properly identify the Government Bill of Lading, issued on receipt of a shipment, with the company's delivery record of Government shipment or commercial bill of lading, the waybill number shown on the delivery record or commercial bill of lading should be included under "Description of Articles" on the original and memorandum copy of the Government Bill of Lading, and the Government Bill of Lading number put on the delivery record or commercial bill of lading. The memorandum copy of Bill of Lading (Form 1058a) should be promptly forwarded to the Accounting Office of the Bureau.